

Regional Water Quality Control Board
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION (7)



SECTION 303 (d) LIST PROPOSALS

Region 7 Summary of Recommendations

Water Body	Pollutant/Medium /Beneficial Use	RWQCB Recommendation	SWRCB Recommendation
New River	Chloroform/Water/MUN	List	List
New River	Toluene/Water/MUN	List	List
New River	p-Cymene/Water/MUN	List	List
New River	1,2,4- trimethylbenzene/Water/MUN	List	List
New River	m,p,-Xylenes/Water/MUN	List	List
New River	o-Xylenes/Water/MUN	List	List
New River	p-DCB/Water/MUN	List	List
New River	Trash/Water/WARM;WILD,R EC1; REC1I	List	List
New River	Dissolved oxygen (Dissolved Oxygen)Water/WARM;REC1 ; REC2	List for dissolved organic matter	List for Dissolved Oxygen. The standard violated is Dissolved Oxygen. The source is dissolved organic material
New River	Nutrients/water/aquatic life	Delist	Maintain Listing. No data available on which to base delisting. Staff report states that, RWQCB has no data showing that...nutrients are...violating water quality standards in the New River, however the River carries large amounts of nitrogen and phosphate which are causing eutrophic conditions [and] fish die-offs in the [Salton] Sea.. Water quality conditions in the New River will need to be incorporated into TMDL for Salton Sea, so retain listing.

Water Body	Pollutant/Medium /Beneficial Use	RWQCB Recommendation	SWRCB Recommendation
Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel	Change listing from bacteria to pathogens	Clarification	Change pollutant description.
New River	Change listing from bacteria to pathogens	Clarification	Change pollutant description.
Palo Verde Outfall Drain	Change listing from bacteria to pathogens	Clarification	Change pollutant description.

Region 7

New River

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	Chloroform/Water/MUN
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	QA used by RWQCB staff
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	Results compared directly to standards
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	Basin Plan quantitative and qualitative standards from Minute Number 264 of the Mexican-American Treaty
Water Body-specific Information	Data collected 6 times per year from 1996-2001
Data used to assess water quality	Violations of WQO
Spatial representation	Monitoring performed by RWQCB at US-Mexico border.
Temporal representation	1996-2001
Data type	Numeric data
Use of standard method	Standard lab method
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Untreated and improperly treated industrial waste discharges from Mexico.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty
RWQCB Recommendation	List
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	List

Region 7

New River

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	Toluene/Water/MUN
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	QA used by RWQCB staff
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	Results compared directly to standards
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	Basin Plan quantitative and qualitative standards from Minute Number 264 of the Mexican-American Treaty
Water Body-specific Information	Data collected approximately monthly from 1995-2001
Data used to assess water quality	Violations of WQO
Spatial representation	Monitoring performed by RWQCB at US-Mexico border.
Temporal representation	1995-2001
Data type	Numeric data
Use of standard method	Standard lab method
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Untreated and improperly treated industrial waste discharges from Mexico.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty
RWQCB Recommendation	List
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	List

Region 7

New River

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	p-Cymene/Water/MUN
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	QA used by RWQCB staff
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	Results compared directly to standards
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	Basin Plan quantitative and qualitative standards from Minute Number 264 of the Mexican-American Water Treaty
Water Body-specific Information	Data collected 1 to 6 times per year from 1995 to 2001
Data used to assess water quality	Violations of WQO
Spatial representation	Monitoring performed by RWQCB at US-Mexico border.
Temporal representation	1995-2001
Data type	Numeric data
Use of standard method	Standard lab method
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Untreated and improperly treated industrial waste discharges from Mexico.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty
RWQCB Recommendation	List
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	List

Region 7

New River

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	1,2,4-trimethylbenzene/Water/MUN
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	QA used by RWQCB staff
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	Results compared directly to standards
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	Basin Plan quantitative and qualitative standards from Minute Number 264 of the Mexican-American Water Treaty
Water Body-specific Information	Data collected 1 to 4 times per year from 1998-2001
Data used to assess water quality	Violations of WQO
Spatial representation	Monitoring performed by RWQCB at US-Mexico border.
Temporal representation	1998-2001
Data type	Numeric data
Use of standard method	Standard lab method
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Untreated and improperly treated industrial waste discharges from Mexico.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty
RWQCB Recommendation	List
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	List

Region 7

New River

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	m,p,-Xylenes/Water/MUN
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	QA used by RWQCB staff
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	Results compared directly to standards
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	Basin Plan quantitative and qualitative standards from Minute Number 264 of the Mexican-American Water Treaty
Water Body-specific Information	Data collected 2 to 12 times per year from 1995-2001
Data used to assess water quality	Violations of WQO
Spatial representation	Monitoring performed by RWQCB at US-Mexico border.
Temporal representation	1995-2001
Data type	Numeric data
Use of standard method	Standard lab method
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Untreated and improperly treated industrial waste discharges from Mexico.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty
RWQCB Recommendation	List
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	List

Region 7

New River

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	o-Xylenes/Water/MUN
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	QA used by RWQCB staff
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	Results compared directly to standards
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	Basin Plan quantitative and qualitative standards from Minute Number 264 of the Mexican-American Water Treaty
Water Body-specific Information	Data collected 2 to 11 times per year from 1996 - 2001
Data used to assess water quality	Violations of WQO
Spatial representation	Monitoring performed by RWQCB at US-Mexico border.
Temporal representation	1996-2001
Data type	Numeric data
Use of standard method	Standard lab method
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Untreated and improperly treated industrial waste discharges from Mexico.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty
RWQCB Recommendation	List
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	List

Region 7

New River

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	p-DCB/Water/MUN
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	QA used by RWQCB staff
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	Results compared directly to standards
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	Basin Plan quantitative and qualitative standards from Minute Number 264 of the Mexican-American Water Treaty
Water Body-specific Information	Data collected 5 to 12 times per year from 1995-2001
Data used to assess water quality	Violations of WQO
Spatial representation	Monitoring performed by RWQCB at US-Mexico border.
Temporal representation	1995-2001
Data type	Numeric data
Use of standard method	Standard lab method
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Untreated and improperly treated industrial waste discharges from Mexico.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty
RWQCB Recommendation	List
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	List

Region 7

New River

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	Trash/Water/WARM;WILD,REC1; REC1I
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	Numerous observations by RWQCB staff of trash in river. Quarterly removal of approximately 200 cubic yards of trash by county.
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	Direct observations of trash accumulation in River. Linked to aesthetics-related beneficial use.
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	Observed violation of US-Mexico treaty. BUs directly impacted.
Water Body-specific Information	Numerous observations by RWQCB staff of trash in river. Quarterly removal of approximately 200 cubic yards of trash by county.
Data used to assess water quality	Numerous observations by RWQCB staff of trash in river. Quarterly removal of approximately 200 cubic yards of trash by county.
Spatial representation	Observations made at US/Mexico border and a few miles north.
Temporal representation	Monthly 8-hour and quarterly 24-hour observations made.
Data type	Observations, trash removal
Use of standard method	N/A
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Anthropogenic sources
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty
RWQCB Recommendation	List
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	List

Region 7

New River

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	Dissolved oxygen (Dissolved Oxygen)Water/WARM;REC1; REC2
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	QA used by RWQCB staff
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	Results compared directly to WQO
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	Basin Plan numeric WQO used
Water Body-specific Information	Data collected monthly from 1996-2001
Data used to assess water quality	Violations of WQO
Spatial representation	Monitoring performed by RWQCB.
Temporal representation	Monthly for over 5 years
Data type	Numeric data
Use of standard method	Standard lab method
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	5-20 million gallons per day of raw sewage from Mexico discharged to New River.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty
RWQCB Recommendation	List for dissolved organic matter
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	List for Dissolved Oxygen. The standard violated is Dissolved Oxygen. The source is dissolved organic material

Region 7

New River

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	Nutrients/water/aquatic life
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	No data available
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	No data available
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	No data available
Water Body-specific Information	No data available
Data used to assess water quality	No data available
Spatial representation	No data available
Temporal representation	No data available
Data type	No data available
Use of standard method	No data available
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	Phosphates from Mexico and Imperial Valley
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty
RWQCB Recommendation	Delist
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	Maintain Listing. No data available on which to base delisting. Staff report states that, RWQCB has no data showing that...nutrients are...violating water quality standards in the New River, however the River carries large amounts of nitrogen and phosphate which are causing eutrophic conditions [and] fish die-offs in the [Salton] Sea.. Water quality conditions in the New River will need to be incorporated into TMDL for Salton Sea, so retain listing.

Region 7

Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel

Water Body	Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	Change listing from bacteria to pathogens
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	N/A
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	N/A
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	N/A
Water Body-specific Information	N/A
Data used to assess water quality	N/A
Spatial representation	N/A
Temporal representation	N/A
Data type	N/A
Use of standard method	N/A
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	5-20 million gallons per day of raw sewage from Mexico discharged to New River.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty
RWQCB Recommendation	Clarification
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	Change pollutant description.

Region 7

New River

Water Body	New River
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	Change listing from bacteria to pathogens
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	N/A
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	N/A
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	N/A
Water Body-specific Information	N/A
Data used to assess water quality	N/A
Spatial representation	N/A
Temporal representation	N/A
Data type	N/A
Use of standard method	N/A
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	5-20 million gallons per day of raw sewage from Mexico discharged to New River.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty
RWQCB Recommendation	Clarification
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	Change pollutant description.

Region 7

Palo Verde Outfall Drain

Water Body	Palo Verde Outfall Drain
Stressor/Media/Beneficial Use	Change listing from bacteria to pathogens
Data quality assessment. Extent to which data quality requirements met.	N/A
Linkage between measurement endpoint and beneficial use or standard	N/A
Utility of measure for judging if standards or uses are not attained	N/A
Water Body-specific Information	N/A
Data used to assess water quality	N/A
Spatial representation	N/A
Temporal representation	N/A
Data type	N/A
Use of standard method	N/A
Potential Source(s) of Pollutant	5-20 million gallons per day of raw sewage from Mexico discharged to New River.
Alternative Enforceable Program	Mexican-American Water Treaty
RWQCB Recommendation	Clarification
SWRCB Staff Recommendation	Change pollutant description.

Reference List for Region 7

Staff Report

California Regional Water Quality Control Board. Colorado River Basin Region. 2001. Staff Report on the Proposed Update of Clean Water Act 303(d) List of Impaired Water Bodies within the Colorado River Basin Region. October 16, 2001.

Public Input

In a letter dated February 28, 2001, the Regional Board staff solicited information from the public for updating its 303(d) List (see Attachment Two). The following agencies and persons submitted data in response to the letter:

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBOR). Fax and E-mails with water quality data on the Colorado River above Imperial Dam and on the Brawley Wetlands Projects.

US Geological Survey. A hard copy from the USGS "Water Resources Data, Arizona, Water Year 1999" regarding water quality data on the Colorado River and tributaries to the Colorado River.

California Department of Pesticide Regulation. Letter referring the Regional Board staff to the Department's Internet Databases that include water quality data on the region's surface waters.

US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service. Letter reporting that Department is updating its water quality records

Big Bear Regional Wastewater Agency . Letter reporting water quality data on Big Bear Lake.

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California . Letter reporting water quality data on Lake Havasu.

George Bernath at EarthLink. E-mail reporting water quality data on the Piute Spring.